

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

West Fertilizer Company dba Adair Grain, Inc. Incident Situation Report #42 May 7-8, 2013

Subject: April 17, 2013 Explosion at West Fertilizer Company dba Adair Grain, Inc.

Location: 1471 Jerry Mashek Drive, West (McLennan County), TX 76691

This report covers activities conducted during the operational period, beginning May 7, 2013 at 1500 hours through May 8, 2013, 0700 hours

1. Jason Neumann (Waco Region) (SOSC) and Jeff Kunze (Waco Region) (MCC) staffed this operational period until 1900 hours on May 7, 2013.
2. Kati Wooten (Waco Region) staffed this operational period beginning May 7, 2013 at 1900 hours, until 0700 hours on May 8, 2013.
3. TCEQ contractor CTEH (1 staff) conducted air monitoring beginning May 7, 2013 at 1900 hours through May 8, 2013, 0700 hours.
4. The focus for this operational period is continued air monitoring. There continues to be no emissions above action levels.
5. Specific chemicals being monitored by CTEH included volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and ammonia.
6. As documented in TCEQ Situation Report #41, Jason Neumann and Jeff Kunze conducted an on-site investigation regarding silt fencing that was covered with dirt by the site contractor. The site visit revealed the silt fencing was compromised in two separate locations along the northern and eastern perimeter. Jason Neumann and Jeff Kunze met with the site contractor supervisor and instructed him to move the dirt from the rear face of the silt fencing to at least 5 feet along the perimeter.
7. At 1730 hours, Jason Neumann and Jeff Kunze conducted a follow up site investigation to ensure corrective actions had been completed. The site visit revealed the material had been removed and the silt fencing repaired in the affected areas.
8. At 1800 hours, Jason Neumann and Jeff Kunze checked the bermed area adjacent to the facility which was constructed to contain runoff from the site. A significant amount of contamination previously documented was observed in the bar ditch and downstream of the second containment berm. A plan was developed, in cooperation with ATF and the State Contractor, to mitigate the contamination during the afternoon hours of May 8, 2013. ATF requested to meet with Jason Neumann and Jeff Kunze

on the morning of May 8, 2013; the focus of the meeting will be to discuss the plan to mitigate the contamination and potentially initiate the plan at an earlier time than originally anticipated.

9. Beginning at 1900 hours, ATF requested that TCEQ and CTEH Staff not enter the hot-zone area during the night hours. ATF stated the site is undergoing preparations so that photographic documentation of the site can be gathered during the daytime hours of May 8, 2013. Due to this request, the only monitoring equipment which could be accessed by TCEQ and CTEH Staff during this operational period was one AreaRAE located off-site, across the railroad tracks. The three remaining AreaRAEs located within the hot-zone could not be accessed by TCEQ or CTEH Staff during this operational period; therefore, the batteries for those monitors could not be changed and the equipment could not be calibrated during this time.
10. As of 0700 hours, the batteries for the three AreaRAEs located within the hot-zone had not failed. At this time, the air monitors are still collecting data of emissions in the area; there continues to be no emissions above actions levels from any of the air monitoring equipment.